

S/T

67

CONFIDENTIAL

COCOM Document No. 3758

Copy No.....55

CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Television Link Equipment

4403004

Memorandum by the United Kingdom Delegation

References: COCOM Documents 3660, 3671, 3683, 3689 and 3721

1. The United Kingdom authorities have gone very carefully into certain matters referred to in the Committee in the course of discussions on the French and German requests, under the Polish Exceptions Procedure, relating to television relay equipment (Hertzian Links).

2. It has always been the understanding of the United Kingdom Delegation that the exception from the embargo coverage of I.L. 1520 introduced in the 1958 Review applies only to television links intended for short range point-to-point (i.e. "single hop") communications and does not apply to links for multiple relay systems. Since, however, most television link equipment is capable of use both for "one-hop" studio-to-transmitter purposes and for "multi-hop" relay purposes, regard must normally be paid to the probable end use of the equipment when deciding whether or not it is subject to the embargo and prohibited for export to the Bloc. The proposed Warsaw-Katowice television relay (like the Berlin-Schwerin television relay to which the German Delegation drew attention in the Committee's discussion on 8th October 1959) accordingly represents an end-use of television link equipment which makes the equipment in question subject to the embargo.

3. On 8th October 1959 the French Delegation asked the United Kingdom Delegation whether, in the United Kingdom's view, television link equipment could be exported together with non-embargoed television studio and transmitter equipment under the provisions of Administrative Principle No. 3. In reply, the United Kingdom Delegation would say that, prior to the exception from I.L. 1520 introduced in the 1958 Review, their authorities had been ready, in appropriate circumstances, to licence exports of outside broadcast link equipments intended for use with non-embargoed television transmitter and studio equipment where the provisions of Administrative Principle No. 3 permitted; a practice which it is believed has also been followed by other member countries. However, the United Kingdom authorities have never authorised exports of television links known to be for use in multi-hop relay purposes; indeed, as the United Kingdom Delegation indicated in the Committee's discussions on 8th October 1959, they have consistently refused requests from British exporters to be allowed to supply "multi-hop" television relays to Bloc countries, including Poland.

4. The United Kingdom Delegation are grateful to the German Delegation for having drawn their attention to the Berlin-Schwerin television relay. The United Kingdom authorities have conducted a careful investigation into this matter and wish to set out the following facts for the information of the Committee -

- (a) In September, 1956, the United Kingdom authorities licensed for export to East Germany seven KTR 1000 links and two KTR 100 links (total f.o.b. value \$134,400) as part of an order for otherwise non-embargoed television studio and transmitter equipment amounting

/ in all

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

in all to \$512,400 f.o.b. These links were intended for use as outside broadcast equipment ancillary to the non-embargoed television equipment supplied at the same time, and were regarded as properly licensable under the provisions of Administrative Principle No. 3.

- (b) However, a very recent investigation by the United Kingdom authorities has revealed that upon the arrival of this equipment in East Germany early in 1957, the East German broadcasting authorities had installed the seven KTR 1000 links in such a way as to provide the Berlin-Schwerin relay which commenced effective operations earlier this year.
- (c) The United Kingdom authorities do not consider that blame can be attached to the British exporter of these equipments as he had in any event no reason to believe that use of the links for relay purposes might at that time have been regarded as ineligible for exceptional licensing. (Before 1958 I.L. 1520 applied to "one-hop" links just as much as relays.)

United Kingdom Delegation,

Paris.

November 12, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL